

1. A drumhead comprising:

a frame member having a generally planar upper member and a generally planar lower member parallel to and spaced apart from said planar upper member, an inner rim and an outer rim;

a material for constituting a drumming surface extending flat across the area defined within said inner rim, said material for constituting a drumming surface having a rim portion integrally formed therewith, including a generally vertically continuous wall flowing from said drumming surface, and a shoulder member formed below said rim portion and in conjunction with said wall, which includes a base portion, wherein said wall at its base portion extends flat across the area defined between said inner rim and said outer rim to maximize the surface to surface contact between said material constituting a drumming surface and said planar upper member and said planar lower member and ensure that said material constituting a drumming surface is fixably secured; and

a means to secure said material constituting a drumming surface between said planar upper member and said planar lower member of said frame member.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said annular hoop includes a means to secure said drumhead to a drumshell.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 2 wherein said means to secure said drumhead to a drumshell enables the tensioning of said material for constituting a drumming surface.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said planar upper member of said annular hoop comprises one or more layers of material.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said planar lower member of said annular hoop comprises one or more layers of material.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 2 wherein said means to secure said drumhead to a drumshell comprises a plurality of openings disposed within said annular hoop and corresponding bolt members adapted to engage said openings in a fastening relationship and connect to the drumshell to enable support for said drumhead and the tensioning of said material constituting a drumming surface.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said annular hoop measures less than 3/8" in thickness.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said means to secure said material constituting a drumming surface between said planar upper member and said planar lower member of said annular hoop comprises an adhesive compound.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said means to secure said material constituting a drumming surface between said planar upper member and said planar lower member of said annular hoop comprises a plurality of spaced openings disposed within said annular hoop and corresponding insertable rivets or combinations of nuts and bolts.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 8 wherein said adhesive compound is a polyamide web adhesive.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said planar upper member and said planar lower member are comprised of fiberboard.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said planar upper member and said planar lower member are comprised of a synthetic material.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said material constituting a drumming surface is comprised of polyester.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said drumhead is tunable to produce a tone of a desired pitch.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The drumhead of Claim 1 wherein said material constituting a drumming surface is comprised of more than one layer.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A drumhead comprising:  
a frame member having a generally horizontally oriented planar upper member and a generally horizontally oriented planar lower member parallel to and spaced apart from said horizontally oriented planar upper member, an inner rim and an outer rim;

a material for constituting a drumming surface, said material for constituting a drumming surface having a rim portion, [including] which extends into a generally vertically continuous side wall having a bottom section, and a horizontally oriented